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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.           **To Be Assigned**  
Applicant(s):      **MEYER, Jürgen et al.**  
Filed:              **Concurrently Herewith**  
TC/A.U.            **To Be Assigned**  
Examiner:          **To Be Assigned**  
Title:              **Silicas**

Confirmation No.: TBA

Docket No.:       **032301.411**  
Customer No.:     **25461**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to first examining the above-identified application, please make the following amendments:

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.